



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**NMFS ANNOUNCES THE RELEASE OF A SUMMARY OF COMMENTS  
RECEIVED DURING SCOPING FOR AMENDMENT 2 TO THE  
CONSOLIDATED HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES FISHERY  
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has summarized comments received on its Notice of Intent (NOI) (November 7, 2006, 71 FR 65086) and scoping presentation for an amendment to the final Consolidated Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan (HMS FMP). NMFS gathered public comments regarding these management measures during seven public scoping meetings during January 2007 as well as took public comment on the NOI from November 7, 2006, through February 5, 2007. The summary of these comments is now available for HMS website (see website listed below). Amendment 2 will address Atlantic shark management measures that are necessary as a result of recent stock assessments for large coastal sharks (LCS), porbeagle sharks, and dusky sharks. NMFS is in the process of preparing a PreDraft that will describe management history, purpose and need of Amendment 2, potential alternatives that may be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and proposed rule, and the impacts of these alternatives on the human environment. This PreDraft will be presented to members of the Advisory Panel and other consulting parties in March 2007.

This notice is a courtesy to HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about your fishery. Official notice of Federal fishing actions is made by filing such notices with the Office of the Federal Register. A copy of the comment summary from scoping for Amendment 2 can be found on the HMS website: (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>). If you have any questions please contact Michael Clark (301-713-2347) or Jackie Wilson (404-806-7622).

Alan Risenhoover, Director  
Office of Sustainable Fisheries

**MAR 02 2007**

Date

